

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

HowNiKan

People of the Fire

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More than 4,600 enjoy Festival 2008

Schmidlkofer, Wesselhoft retain CPN Legislative seats



Slavin family members send greetings from the 2008 Family Reunion Festival. The Slavins were one of the featured reunion families at the 2008 Reunion Festival.

Meeting in Shawnee for their annual Family Reunion Festival, Citizen Potawatomi Nation members have re-

-elected two members of their new 16-member legislator. Rep. Paul Wesselhoft, who is also an Oklahoma House of

Representatives member and lives in Moore, defeated Norman Brasfield of Bartlesville 331 to 123 for the CPN
See FESTIVAL 2008 on page 6

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Paperwork for all vehicles to be registered with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will be inspected by the tag agency staff. We apologize for any inconvenience this might cause. However, this is now mandatory.

Please schedule an appointment on your next visit with the tag agency staff. We will be glad to review all documents that are required for registering your vehicle and any other concerns you might have.

Walking On

Jacqueline Taylor Wijose



Jacqueline Taylor, 73, of Astoria, Oregon and the District #8 representative in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation legislature, died on Tuesday, July 15, 2008. She was born on February 16, 1975. A memorial service to "Celebrate the Life of Jackie Taylor" was held at from 2 to 4 p.m. on July 26 at the Columbia River Maritime Museum in Astoria.

The August *HowNiKan* will feature a full obituary for Rep. Taylor.

Sean Michael Matos

Sean Michael Matos, 27, of Mogadore, Ohio passed away May 27, 2008. Sean was born March 14, 1981 in San Diego, California.



He was employed as an HVAC service technician at The K Company, a job he loved dearly. He really enjoyed fishing, playing football, and especially photography. He was known for his beautiful smile and for making people laugh. He touched so many people's lives. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Sean is survived by his loving wife of six years, Melissa; parents, George and Robin Matos; sisters, Rachel and Shannon Matos; Jim Goodwin; parents-in-law, Tom and Lisa Pearce; sister-in-law, Michelle White and her husband Jake; brothers-in-law, Darren and Damon Pearce; and many other loving family and friends.

A memorial gathering was held on Sunday, June 1, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 4 to 8 p.m. at Newcomer Funeral Home, 131 N. Canton Rd, Akron, Ohio. A memorial service was given by Brother Stacey Walker on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 7 p.m. at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 2180 Martin Road, Akron.

To leave a special message for the family online, visit the Web site www.NewcomerFamily.com.

Catherine Elizabeth "Betty" Moelk

SHAWNEE, Okla. - Shawnee resident Catherine Elizabeth "Betty" Moelk, 85, died Wednesday, June 4, 2008, in Shawnee. A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 2008 at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Arrangements were under the direction of Resthaven Funeral Home.

Donald E. Bergeron

Donald E. Bergeron was born on February 12, 1925 in Wanette, Oklahoma, the son of William and Maude Bergeron. He was a twin and the youngest of 14 siblings. He died at age 83 on May 20, 2008 due to a farm accident.

He graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was ordained to the ministry at age 19 in August 1944 and served part-time pastorates while a student. "Brother Don" was a full-time pastor of churches in Oklahoma and California. He retired in 1990, after 13 years as Director of Missions for Arbuckle Baptist Association in Oklahoma.

Don was married to Bernice Deakins, who preceded him in death after 35 years of marriage. He was married to Helen Lamb in 1988, after the death of their former spouses.

He is survived by his wife, Helen; daughters Susan Boyes and her husband Stuart of Oklahoma City and Sharon Watson and her husband Marty of North Little Rock, Arkansas; step-daughter Cynthia Brandt and her husband Tim of Coweta, Oklahoma; and step-sons Stephen Lamb and his wife Deborah of Fort Worth, Texas and Mark Lamb and his wife Tanya of Abilene, Texas. He is also survived by 14 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren,



two sisters, and one brother.

Funeral Services were held on Friday, May 23, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at Quail Springs Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. Burial followed at 2:30 p.m. at Fairlawn Cemetery in Comanche, Oklahoma.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Quail Springs Baptist Church Building Fund.

Freddie Eugene Cline

Freddie Eugene Cline, 66, of Norman, died Friday, May 23, 2008 in Oklahoma City. He was born October 31, 1941, the son of Albert and LaVern (Trousdale) Cline in Corpus Christi, Texas. Freddie was a 1960 graduate of Tribbey, Oklahoma High School.

He was very proud to be a tribal member of Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He appreciated the many benefits he received from the tribe. He loved to fish and hunt until he became too ill to do so. He loved gospel and country music. He was a people person who had a very loving and generous heart. He was very proud of his three sons. He was very devoted to his family and friends. Many times, he would do errands or take friends or neighbors to doctor visits or shopping when he was sick, sometimes even sicker than they were.

Freddie was in sales a good part of his life. He sold Combined Insurance for a few

HOWNIKAN

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years. In 1969, he began selling cars for Pontiac Motor Division. He won many awards for top sales clerk in both the insurance and automobile business. In 1971, he was #2 in sales for Pontiac Motor Division in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana. He taught classes in sales for General Motors. He married Sharon Pruett on December

17, 1971 at Trinity Baptist Church in Norman, Oklahoma. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, of the home; three sons, Darren Eugene Cline and wife Tania of Orlando, Florida, Leland Eric Cline and wife Donna of Noble, Oklahoma, Gregory Allen Cline of Norman, Oklahoma; four brothers, Wyvern Cline, Michael Cline, and Stephen Cline, all of Norman, and Philip Cline of Lexington, Oklahoma; a sister, Linda Cline Palmer of Norman; four grandchildren, Whitney, Samantha, Nicole, and Brody; and numerous extended family members and friends.

His parents and a brother, Jimmie Cline, preceded Mr. Cline in death.

A celebration of Freddie's life was held on Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at Primrose Chapel in Norman. The family greeted friends and other family members from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday, May 26, 2008 at Primrose Funeral Home.

Please join us in honoring our loved one by visiting our memorial at www.mem.com. Through this site, we invite you to share your thoughts and fond

memories with our family.

Fredia Iola Jager

Fredia Iola Jager was born November 27, 1921, in Rossville, Kansas, and died on June 4, 2008, at home in Eureka, California, surrounded by her loving family.

She is survived by her daughters, Dora Kaliamos, Patricia Roberts and her husband David, and Dorothy Wentworth and her husband Dennis; her sons, Frank Jager and his wife Sarah, Mike Jager and his wife Sonia, David Jager, Paul Jager, and Adam Jager and his wife Lisa. She is also survived by her sisters, Murial Dister and Irene Vrell and her husband Barney; 22 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and numerous family members in Oregon and Kansas.



She was preceded in death by her parents, Leo and Clara DeGraff; her husband, Frank Jager Sr.; her sister, Dorothy Young; and her son-in-law, Jim Kaliamos.

After her husband's death in 1970, she raised seven children alone. She went back to school at College of the Redwoods and earned her GED and an AA degree in Business. She worked for St. Bernards High School as a bookkeeper, and then helped her dear and close friend, Reverend Tom Deaveaux, run a halfway house in Eureka and a care home in Fortuna. She was the housemother for several parishes, including Healdsburg. Her cooking was excellent, and even a bishop or two were known to stop by for dinner. She also ran the YWCA in Eureka and the gift shop at the Sequoia Park Zoo. She traveled the world with Elder Hostel, going to Europe, Greece, Italy, China, Egypt, and the Holy Land.

Fredia was a charter member of the Catholic Daughters of America and a parishioner of St. Bernards Parish since 1948. She was active in PTA, Brownies, and Campfire Girls. She was also a Cub Scout leader and supporter of BSA Troop 54.

Fredia was a proud Native American of the Bird Clan of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She has now "walked on" and has begun her journey into the next life. A rosary was held at Pierce Mortuary at 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 8, 2008. Her funeral mass was held at St. Bernards Catholic Church at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, June 9, 2008.

In lieu of flowers, Fredia requested donations be made to Hospice of Humboldt or St. Bernards High School. The family would like to thank the nurses and Staff of Hospice of Humboldt, Jerome Lengyl MD, and the Reverend Loren Allen of St. Bernards Parish. A very special thank you goes out to Mrs. Marie Bugbee, who brightened Fredia's days with her visits and communion.

Arrangements were under the direction of Pierce Mortuary, 707 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501. Please sign the guestbook at www.times-standard.com, click on obituaries.

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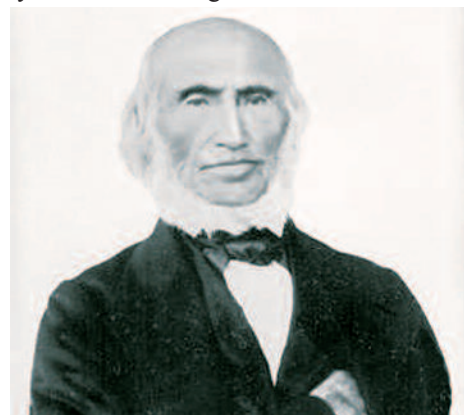
Potawatomi Cornerstone: The Bertrand family, an early history

by Charles Clark

From the province of Poitou in western France, a family in search of a new life sailed to the banks of the St. Lawrence River in Canada. Little did they know that their descendants would not only be witness to, but would participate in, this country's earliest major historical events involving the Potawatomi who lived in the Great Lakes area.

In the late 1860s, the first Bertrands to cross the Atlantic Ocean were Jean and Gabriel Bertrand. Jean settled along the St. Lawrence between Rivere du Loup and St. Pierre, where he became a farmer by trade. In 1697, Jean married Marie Charlotte Brar dit Riverdra in Montreal. They had nine children.

Their oldest, Jacques, was born in 1699 in Montreal. He became a mason and stonecutter, but would later realize not only the adventure but also the profitability of the fur trading business.

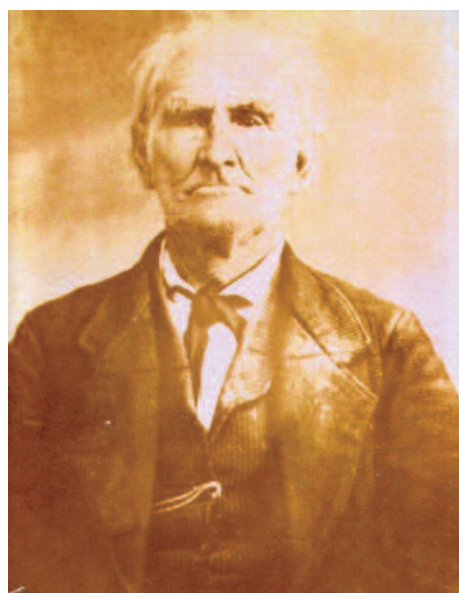


Joseph Bertrand Sr.

Jacques' grandson, Joseph Sr. carried on that vocation. Born October 8, 1778 at Mackinac, Joseph Sr. made his way to the St. Joseph River valley in 1803, settling nearly 50 miles upstream from the mouth of the river at Parc Aux Vaches, French for Pasture of the Cow, a reference to buffalo.

The next year, in 1804, Joseph Sr. became employed with the American Fur Company. This was at the same time that he met and married Nona, the daughter of Chief Topenbee. It was through this union that the Bertrand family and Potawatomi would come together.

Their traditional Potawatomi marriage was ratified by the Catholic church in August of 1818 by a mission priest from Saint Anne's in Detroit. It was then that



Joseph Bertrand Jr.

Nona was given the Christian name Madeline.

Joseph Sr. and Madeline settled on the west bank of the St. Joseph River just below Pokagon's Creek. He built a cabin for his wife and established a fur business and trading post in the area that would become known as the settlement of Bertrand.

Madeline received a formal education. However, despite learning the ways of her European counterparts, she preferred to live in a wigwam behind the cabin and dress in the traditional Potawatomi way.

Topenbee (He Who Sits Quietly) was the son of Anaquiba, a Potawatomi chief. Topenbee also became a leading chief of the St. Joseph Potawatomi, living in an era that underwent the most prolific changes in the way of life for the Potawatomi people.

Topenbee became increasingly concerned by the sale of liquor and was not alone in blaming the Americans for it. The effects were reaching epidemic proportions, resulting in acts of senseless violence, not only between Indians and whites, but also among the Indians.

Decline of the relationship between the Americans and the Potawatomi was hastened by the rise of the Prophet Tenskwatawa, a Shawnee Indian. In 1805, Tenskwatawa claimed that he entered the Spirit World and was given a warning that a great darkness would fall upon the Indians unless they renewed the ways of

their ancestors.

The American government realized that it was losing its foothold in part because of Tenskwatawa's influence. However, blame also fell upon the British who were actively allying themselves with the Indians. Many of the Potawatomi, especially in the Detroit area, were friendly to the Americans.

In November 1811, Tenskwatawa attacked General William Henry Harrison's troops at Prophet's town. The engagement became known as the Battle of Tippecanoe. Although the Prophet was defeated, the battle began an era of hostile actions that continued until 1816.

When a formal declaration of war was made between Great Britain and America in 1812, a large majority of the Indians aligned themselves with the British. Fort Dearborn had received warnings about a possible attack, but it was not until after the American garrison at Mackinac was captured by the British that the residents at Fort Dearborn feared that such an attack on them was imminent.

General Hull ordered Captain Heald, the commander of Fort Dearborn to abandon the fort immediately. Unfortunately for Heald, he waited six days to make a command decision. By that time, close to 500 Potawatomi and Winnebago had assembled outside the stockade.

On August 14, it was learned that Tecumseh had defeated the Americans at Brownstown and that General Hull had taken refuge behind the walls of Fort Detroit. Knowledge of this success led the Indians there to attack the Americans after they left Fort Dearborn.

The next morning, on August 15, Topenbee went to Fort Dearborn to discuss the situation with Captain Heald, warning him that his people would be attacked after they left the safety of the Fort. Heald ignored Topenbee's warning and ordered his troops and the civilians to leave. It was a decision that resulted in the deaths of 68 people.

The British were eventually pushed back into Canada, at the cost of thousands of lives. By 1813, the Indians were ready to make peace.

On August 14, one day before the one-year anniversary of the Ft. Dearborn mas-



Tenskwatawa

sacre, an armistice was signed between several Indian chiefs and the American government. Topenbee, Five Medals, and Main Poc agreed to the terms - to refrain from all hostilities and release American prisoners. In return, the Indians were allowed to return to their usual hunting grounds and remain there unmolested, given that the Americans won the war.

Topenbee was reluctant to sign the armistice, but the war had destroyed the Potawatomi's food supply and the Americans were willing to give them rations.

In 1815, Topenbee and Chebass led a delegation of St. Joseph Potawatomi to Spring Wells to negotiate a new treaty with the American government. This treaty was an extension of the 1813 armistice, calling for the Potawatomi to sever all ties with the British and place themselves under the exclusive protection of the American government. They were also to agree to all land cessions that transpired between 1795 and 1811. Those who signed the treaty were Topenbee, Chebass, Five Medals, Metea, and Mad Sturgeon.

Main Poc refused to sign the treaty, seeing it as an end to the old ways. In his despair, he began drinking again and died while hunting in Michigan in the spring of 1816.

In 1818, Topenbee and other chiefs were called on again to sign the Treaty at Saint Mary's. In 1821, Topenbee placed his mark on the Treaty of Chicago, the largest of all Potawatomi land cessions. By this time, Topenbee was getting old and



Benjamin Henri 'B.H.' Bertrand

tired, and the temptation of gifts, larger annuities, and whiskey was too great. He died in a drunken fall in 1826.

Joseph Bertrand Sr. had his own problems during the war. The Hudson Bay Company dominated the region where Joseph Sr. and his family lived. He walked a tightrope to appease all sides. However, this did not keep the British happy. They put a £100 bounty on his head for his role as an interpreter and liaison for the Americans and Potawatomis.

After the war, Joseph expanded his business, building two taverns and a number of sub-stations along the river. Eventually, 40 families would move into the area.

Madeline died in 1846 and was buried in the Catholic cemetery in Bertrand, Michigan. Joseph remarried in 1853 to Elizabeth LaPlante in Bertrand and moved to the Potawatomi Reserve in Kansas to be with his children and grandchildren, who had moved there earlier.

Joseph Sr. died in September 1865 in St. Marys, Kansas. Elizabeth died two months later.

Joseph Sr. and Madeline had seven children. Their oldest, Joseph Jr., was born in Bertrand, Michigan in 1806. His first wife was Mary Doan. Their children were Joseph Hamilton and Mary Matilda Bertrand. Mary died in 1835 shortly after giving birth to a daughter also named Mary Matilda.

Joseph Jr. worked with his father at his trading post and general store for most of his life. He moved his family to Kansas in 1840 alongside his brother Samuel and his family. Joseph Jr. left his son Joseph Hamilton behind to sell the family farm for \$150 or for one good horse and the balance in cash, and to sell the stove and the iron

pot.

Samuel, Joseph Jr., and their families arrived at Sugar Creek on October 29, 1840. Samuel worked as a blacksmith, and Joseph Jr. became a trader and interpreter for the Potawatomis.

In 1846, Joseph Jr. was sent to Council Bluffs to interpret a new treaty. In addition, he played a major role in setting up the logistics to place the Council Bluff Potawatomis on a new reserve on the Kaw River.

Joseph and his family remained at Council Bluffs until the fall of 1848, when they moved to the north banks of the Kaw River as part of the new treaty agreement. Joseph was part of the first small group that arrived in the area that would later become St. Mary's Mission.

At first they carried a small ration of corn meal and subsisted mostly on nuts and berries and other edible wild plants. Occasionally, venison was provided. In September of that same year, Joseph Jr. led Fr. Verreydt and Fr. Gailland across the Kaw River to the new reserve.

Joseph fell ill with the fever and remained bedfast for several days until his death on November 6, 1848. He was buried on the mission grounds in the first cemetery, known as Sleepy Hollow, where many Indians and passersby were buried.

Benjamin Henri, B.H. as he was called, received the most education of Joseph Sr.'s children. As a young child, he attended the Carey Mission School in Michigan, and then moved to Detroit. Later, he attended the Choctaw Academy in Kentucky. After finishing school, Benjamin returned home and worked at his father's trading post for six years before establishing his own mercantile business in the Bertrand settlement.

In 1850, Benjamin led about 650 Potawatomis from the southern Michigan/northern Indiana area to St. Mary's Mission, arriving in 1851. After his arrival there, he became a trader and a member of the Potawatomi Council. Over the next several years, the Potawatomis would split into factions – the sectionists, who wanted to own land in severalty, and the anti-sectionists, who wanted to keep the reservation in common. Benjamin found himself in the midst of a very heated battle that would last for decades.

Over the next several years, he made a number of trips to Washington with other headmen and chiefs to discuss the situation on the Potawatomi Reserve. In 1861, he signed a treaty that gave allotments to



Statue of Madeline Bertrand

those who wanted to hold land in severalty and assigned a portion of the reservation to those who wanted to own it in common.

Benjamin became one of the most influential men on the Kansas Reserve. After signing the treaty of 1861, he served on the first Potawatomi Business Committee in 1862. In addition, in 1866, he was one of the principal men who platted the city of St. Marys. In 1867, he signed another treaty that gave citizenship to Potawatomis who desired to own land in severalty in the Indian Territory (Oklahoma). In October 1869, he helped to secure the charter for the organization of St. Marys.

Benjamin's first wife was Clara Whitaker. After her death in 1866, Benjamin met Marguerite Fabing on one of his trips to Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. They were married in 1869 and had two

children: Benjamin Aloysius and Margaret Emma Josephine.

Marguerite died of tuberculosis in November 1875, and Benjamin died five months later. B.H. and his two wives are buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in St. Marys.

Laurent Bertrand was born in February 1814 in the Bertrand settlement. Like his brothers, he moved his family to Sugar Creek in the early 1840s. He was married to Adelaide Keeler, and they had four children: Bernard Bonduel and Richard R., who were both born in Michigan, and Lucy Marie and Lawrence Joseph, who were born in Kansas.

After Laurent's death in 1849, Adelaide ran a hotel on East Bertrand Avenue in St. Marys until the mid-1860s, when she moved to California.

Alexander Amable Bertrand was born in 1819 in Bertrand, Michigan. He was an artist by trade, but was also a trader. He also served as an interpreter for the Potawatomi. He was part of a delegation that included his brother, Benjamin, which traveled to Washington in 1858 to discuss the terms of another treaty. When the delegation reached St. Louis, they were stopped by the Indian Department and told to turn back.

Indian Agent Murphy, who was with the delegation at the time, reported that the delegates became very angry and behaved in a very unbecoming manner. Murphy reported that he had lost all confidence in the delegation.

This incident sparked a heated feud between the agent and Alexander Amable. The disagreement saw Alexander ending up in court at Ft. Leavenworth in 1859. He

See BERTRANDS on page 13

Potawatomi Gathering Bus Trip

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation will provide free bus travel to the annual "Gathering of the Nations" at Walpole Island, near Ontario, Canada, for tribal members and their immediate families. A chartered bus will leave the CPN headquarters at 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 6, 2008. Gathering dates are August 8-10, 2008. The bus will leave to return home on Sunday, August 10, 2008. It will arrive at the Potawatomi Nation headquarters on Monday, August 11.

A \$50 per passenger refundable deposit is required. Tribal members who attend the Gathering will be responsible for their own food, lodging, and incidentals expenses. To reserve a seat on the bus or obtain more information, please call Cathie Hanson at 275-3121 or 800-880-9880.

Because of higher travel costs, the bus must be at full capacity if the Nation is to make the trip. The Nation reserves the right to cancel the trip upon notice to participants. All deposits will be refunded if the trip is cancelled.

Vets Organization retires flags



CPN Veterans Organization Commander Troy Graham oversees a recent flag retirement ceremony. (Photo by Kumiko Dykstra)

The Citizen Potawatomi Veterans Organization has recently retired nearly 300 flags. "The ceremony was very symbolic and moving," said Jon Boursaw, Col., USAF (ret).

"Detail Atten...tion!" The squad looked as sharp as ever; as they presented the torn and tattered colors to the commanders. Their impressive display of military bearing surprised the spectators. "They must have practiced this many times," one onlooker mentioned to another. "It was sharp."

The event took place on a very windy Saturday, June 14, 2008. In attendance were nearly 25 local veterans and civilians.

CPN Elder Joe David Melot recited the prayer. The convocation gracefully and respectfully thanked our flags for their service. Vice Commander Max Wano carefully inspected each flag and recommend-

ed to Commander Troy Graham that the colors be retired.

The CPN tribal police honored the colors by discharging their weapons. Officer LeClair and Officer Lee proudly support their tribe's veterans. "You don't see this everyday," Officer Lee stated as the crowd was dismissed. "I was honored to serve and am proud to be here."

Justin Neely, a CPN member, played the drum as Michael Dykstra, a CPN Veterans Organization member, draped the flags over the fire. "That was a very moving display of patriotism," Neely recalled.

The flags were entrusted to the Veterans Organization to decommission in a proper ceremony. That objective was successfully completed. Commander Graham remarked, "We have shown the kind of reverence our banners deserve today... we've made our brothers proud."

Kuestersteffen headed to East Central

Following high school graduation in May 2008 and a high school sports career in which she accumulated numerous honors in softball, basketball, and track, CPN member Hilary Michelle Kuestersteffen will join older sister Laura at East Central (Oklahoma) State University in Ada.

Hilary Kuestersteffen earned Oklahoma All-State honors in 2008 as a Fast-Pitch Softball pitcher. Her Konawa High School

team posted a phenomenal 41-1 record in 2008 and earned District, Regional, and State championships.

In the Slow-Pitch Softball season, Hilary Kuestersteffen earned All-State honors at shortstop and was designated the Most Valuable Player on the Canadian Rivers All-Conference team. Her Konawa team earned a district championship, was the regional runner-up, and played its way into the State

Festival 2008, con't. from page 1



The Long Room at the Cultural Heritage Center was packed for the 2008 General Council meeting during Family Reunion Festival.

District #9 seat.

Rep. Paul Schmidtkofer, a Computer-Assisted Drawing instructors at Gordon Cooper Technology Center and resident of Tecumseh, defeated hospice executive Chad Higbee of Oklahoma City by a vote of 237 to 214.

The terms of office for both Wesselhoft and Schmidtkofer are four years. Rep. Wesselhoft was elected to the CPN legislature for the first time in February 2008. His initial term was just a few months as part of the effort to stagger terms for the new legislators.

In August 2007, CPN voters approved a switch from a five-member Business Committee to the 16-member legislature. Five of the legislators represent the tribe's Oklahoma membership, and each is voted on by all Oklahoma members. Each of eight CPN legislators represents a district in a geographically contiguous part of the United States. Each of those legislators is

voted on only by CPN members in his or her district.

The remaining three legislators are the Nation's executive officers —Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer. All tribal members, from both inside Oklahoma and across the U.S., vote in elections for those offices.

CPN officials believe theirs is the first Indian nation in the U.S. to extend legislative representation districts to cover the entire United States. The CPN legislature meets via video teleconference. The eight legislators from Oklahoma are in the Nation's legislative chamber in Shawnee. The other eight use a video teleconference monitor to view and hear the legislative activity in Shawnee and each of the other seven non-Oklahoma legislators.

The CPN provides a video-audio link on its Web site, www.Potawatomi.org, to allow tribal members to watch their government conduct business.

Tournament semi-finals.

Kuestersteffen led her Konawa Lady Tigers to a 27-1 record in the 2007-08 season, with the lone loss coming in the State Class 2A semi-finals by a 78-to-68 score. The Lady Tigers were District, Regional, and Area champions, and, of course, one of the top four teams in Class 2A, according to state tournament results. Kuestersteffen was named to the All-Area and All-Region teams.

In track, Kuestersteffen was the regional champion in the shot put, and competed in the state tournament.

She was named "Regional Athlete of the Year," an award which earned her a college scholarship. She also took home the Pepsico "Outstanding Athlete" scholarship and the United States Marine Corps "Distinguished



Athlete" award.

She signed a letter of intent to accept a college scholarship to play softball at East Central University.

Her parents are Daryl and LaDonna Kuestersteffen. She has a second sister, Ciara, who will be a ninth-grader at Konawa High School this fall. Her grandparents are Gary and Billie Doner and Matilda Silas.

Kaw/Potawatomi Indian preceded Obama on presidential ticket

by Matt Kelley, USA TODAY

WASHINGTON -- Democrat Barack Obama is the first person of color to be a major-party nominee for president, but he is not the first to be on a presidential ticket. Charles Curtis, a member of the Kaw Indian tribe and who had Potawatomi and Osage heritage, was vice president under Herbert Hoover. He served from 1929 to 1933.

Curtis, a senator from Kansas, had been the Senate's majority leader and an unsuccessful rival of Hoover's for the 1928 Republican presidential nomination.

Curtis was a great-great-grandson of the Kaw chief White Plume, who offered his help to the Lewis and Clark expedition in 1804.

Born in 1860, Curtis spent much of his childhood on the Kaw tribe's reservation near Topeka and spoke the Kaw tribal language before he learned English.

In 1873, when his grandparents and other Kaw tribal members were forced to relocate to Oklahoma, Curtis' grandmother talked him out of accompanying his relatives. Instead, he went to school in Topeka, eventually becoming a lawyer and getting into politics.

Curtis was strongly partisan: According to the Senate Historical Office, he often told audiences he was "one-eighth Kaw Indian and 100% Republican." He was a master at deal-making.

First elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1892, Curtis soon became chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee. He drafted the Curtis Act of 1898, which abridged many tribes' rights under treaties to govern themselves and put the Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs in charge of overseeing mineral and oil resources on tribal lands.

Curtis was first elected to the Senate in 1907. He opposed Hoover for the 1928 presidential nomination, then became Hoover's running-mate in a compromise meant to shore up Republican support in Kansas and other farm states. His rivalry with Hoover left him marginalized as vice president, and he spent much of his time presiding over the Senate.

Curtis (January 25, 1860 - February 8, 1936) was a Representative and a Senator from Kansas as well as the thirty-first Vice President of the United States. Nearly half of Curtis' background was made up of



U.S. Vice President Charles Curtis

American Indian stock. His mother, Ellen Pappan Curtis, was one-fourth Kaw, one-fourth Osage, and one-fourth Potawatomi (as well as one-fourth French).

Curtis spent part of his early life on a Kaw reservation, and is the first and only person with acknowledged non-European ancestry to reach either of the two highest offices in the United States government's executive branch. Curtis was the last U.S. Vice President or President to wear a beard or mustache -in his case, a mustache-while in office.

Curtis was born in Topeka, Kansas, attended Topeka High School and was admitted to the bar in 1882. He commenced practice in Topeka and served as prosecuting attorney of Shawnee County, Kansas from 1885 to 1889. He was elected as a Republican to the House of Representatives of the 53rd Congress and to the six succeeding Congresses and served in the House from March 4, 1893 until January 28, 1907, when he resigned, having been chosen by the Kansas Legislature to serve in the United States Senate to fill the short unexpired term of Joseph R. Burton, who had likewise resigned.

On that same day of January 28, 1907, Curtis was simultaneously tapped by Kansas' state lawmakers to the full Senatorial term commencing March 4 of that year and ending March 4, 1913. He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-designation in 1912. However, the Kansas Legislature again appointed him for the six-year term commencing March 4, 1915.

In 1920, he was elected by Kansas vot-



President of the United States Calvin Coolidge, First Lady of the United States Grace Goodhue Coolidge, and Senator Charles Curtis on their way to the Capitol building on Inauguration Day, March 4, 1925.

ers (in compliance with the Constitution's recently-ratified 17th Amendment) and again in 1926 and served without interruption from March 4, 1915, until his resignation on March 3, 1929.

During his tenure in the Senate, he was President pro tempore of the Senate as well as Chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of the Interior, of the Committee on Indian Depredations, and of the Committee on Coast Defenses, as well as of the Republican Conference. He was also United States Senate Republican Whip from 1915 to 1924 and Majority Leader

from 1925 to 1929.

It was during his Senatorial years that he -in concert with fellow Kansan, Representative Daniel Read Anthony, Jr.- offered in their respective bodies during December of 1923 the first rendition of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Curtis resigned from the Senate on March 3, 1929 to assume the office of Vice President, following the landslide 58% to 41% victory achieved as running mate to Republican candidate Herbert Hoover in 1928. The pair were inaugurated on March 4, 1929.

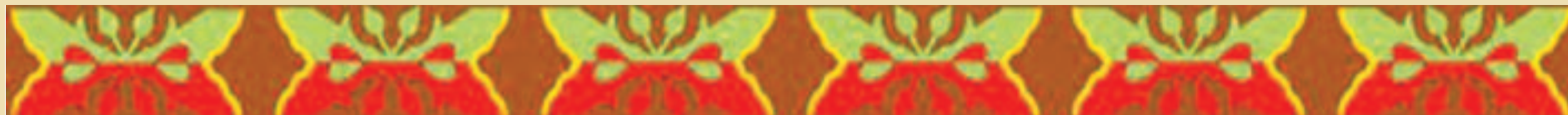
He endorsed the five-day work week, with no reduction in wages, as a work-sharing solution to unemployment soon after the Great Depression began.

Following the 57% - 40% landslide defeat of the Hoover-Curtis ticket in 1932, Curtis' term as Vice President ended on March 4, 1933.

After Hoover was defeated by Franklin Roosevelt in 1932, Curtis remained in Washington, D.C. He resumed the practice of law and died from a heart attack in that city in 1936. His remains were returned to Topeka, Kansas, where he is buried at the Topeka Cemetery.



Jeremy and Thom urge you to turn to pages 12 through 15 to enjoy photos from Family Reunion Festival 2008. And, they hope to see you at Festival 2009!



Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center and FireLake Gifts Preserving Potawatomi Heritage

Heritage Happenings

by *Cindy Stewart, Manager*

The 2008 Family Reunion Festival was a great success. We had more than 4,000 tribal members and guests join us at the Cultural Heritage Center for an exciting weekend.

New this year is the Children's Exhibit. The children, as well as the adults, seemed to enjoy the adventure of imagining the traditional life of the Potawatomi. A wigwam that you can get inside is featured, along with various animal furs that you can touch, tools made of bone, an agricultural area where the children can dig to find vegetables in the soil, baskets of fruits and vegetables, a birch bark canoe, a dugout canoe, and a spear fisherman surrounded in various grasses and cattails.

This exhibit was made possible by the Child Development Center funding the project, the Construction Department with their big hearts and willingness to work hard, and the Cultural Heritage Center staff, who were determined to complete the project in time for Festival 2008.

Mr. Mark Baumfalk from Nebraska brought his KEEPER OF THE FIRE 1997 Harley Davidson Sportster. Mark had a graphics artist paint the CPN Seal, the Fire Keeper, and the words 'People of the Fire', on this unique piece of art. The Harley was displayed inside the foyer of the Cultural Heritage Center. Mark is a descendent of Thomas Yott.

The honored families were represent-

ed well, some families coming in large numbers and from all over the US.

Some of you might not be aware of the Tribal Family History and Veterans' Interviews DVDs and Family Posters (replicas of the family banners hanging in the museum) that are available to purchase for just \$5 each. I'm always surprised when the families don't know this resource is available to them. We still get the sometimes emotional reaction of individuals when they see their family represented on their family banner/poster. Let your family know these are still available for purchase. You can call us or order online at www.FireLakeGifts.com.

With the expansion of each exhibit, space tends to be getting a little tight in places. We want to thank everyone for being patient and courteous in the Voices of Heritage Theater while watching the **Trail of Death** film and your individual Family History films. Each year we have several round-table discussions on locations for each activity within the CHC. We strive to make this an enjoyable time for all our tribal members and guests.

We look forward to seeing you again soon.

Tribal Heritage Project

by *Grant Brittan*

The Tribal Heritage Project was successful in interviewing and meeting more than 100 Citizen Potawatomi Nation members during the Family Reunion Festival Weekend. Our interviewees ranged in age from three months to 90-something years.

We have also been able to edit and load 75 veterans videos into the Veterans Wall of Honor kiosks. Come by and take a look.

Tribal members Craig Anderson and Brooke Honor Anderson Desrochers screened their documentary, **Search for the Seahorse Marine**, which was edited with assistance from the Tribal Heritage Project. It covers their learning of their uncle's crashed WWII plane and their subsequent journey to the island of Espiritu Santo. They hiked three days in the steaming and mountainous South Pacific jungle to reach the crash site.

Once there, they confirmed and documented their discovery. Until that time, the family's oral tradition had always been that the plane had been lost at sea. Military archaeologists from JPAC plan to excavate the site. I would be happy to refer you to Craig Anderson if you would like a copy.

The Tribal Heritage Project and Office of Self-Governance were successful in winning a National Park Service grant which will be applied to the **Trail of Death** documentary which is scheduled to be produced this fall. Tribal Heritage Project staffers will be attending the Trail of Death re-enactment in September. We plan to travel with the caravan, interview knowledgeable individuals, and capture stock footage which we can use in our productions.

We will be going back to Sacred Heart in the near future to continue visually documenting the rebuilding and renovation of the Sacred Heart grounds. We have incorporated video footage from the ground as well as aerial footage from our helicopter shoot from three years ago. Interviews from several people who attended the

school are also being edited into the project along with corresponding photographs from the archives. If you know of anyone who attended Sacred Heart, please let us know.

I hope everyone had a good time during the festival and we will be contacting 2009 honored families in the near future.

Collections Corner

by *Stacy S. Coon*

Bozho, everyone. It looks like we have had yet another very successful Family Reunion Festival. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came up to the Cultural Heritage Center and donated veterans pictures to the Veterans Wall of Honor. At the rate of the expansion of the Wall, who would think it was dedicated just over a year-and-a-half ago!

Although some of the veterans' military information in the kiosks is not fully updated, I encourage you to come and update your information on the kiosk. We cannot update or add any information unless you or a family member comes forth with that information.

With the success of the Wall of Honor and the praise from other tribes and the surrounding communities who have seen the Wall of Honor, we want to express our appreciation to those Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members who served and continue to serve in the Armed Forces. "Poor is the Nation that has no heroes, but disgraceful are those who having them forget."

I also want to thank those individuals who came to visit the museum.

Everything we do in this facility is centered around the 49 Founding Families. Every one of the families has a deep rooted connection to the rich history of the Potawatomi people, which we convey with the museum exhibits.

We encourage you to learn not only about your founding family, but also to learn about the indigenous people that call themselves the Nishnabe' who long ago were met by 7 Prophets portrayed in the 7 Fires Exhibit. Explore the most recent exhibit, Potawatomi Lifeways, our new Children's Exhibit which conveys hands-on interactivity. With more additions and changes yet to come we encourage you to stop in and check us out!

Archival Notebook

R. Blake Norton, Tribal Archivist

The Archival Notebook is an informative look into the activities of the Cultural Heritage Center's (CHC) Tribal Archives. Within the newsletter, we discuss exciting current and future projects, as well as projects that readers can do at home. Readers will have the opportunity to take a look into a real archival and collections management program.

I would like to thank all of the tribal members who have graciously donated

and/or loaned materials to the Cultural Heritage Center's archival collection. Materials acquired at the 2008 Family Reunion Festival allowed Tribal Archives to add 15 new collections to its permanent holdings.

It is with this material that we can teach our young ones and future generations the cultural and historical aspects of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. We must continue collecting and preserving this material, in order to provide visitors and scholars of the tribe an in-depth and accurate look at Potawatomi life.

Ninety percent of the archival collection is made up of materials either donated or loaned to the Cultural Heritage Center. With the Citizen Potawatomi Nation so deeply rooted in family ties, genealogical research is at the forefront of activities provided at the CHC. With this in mind, I encourage all tribal members, young and old, to donate and/or loan any cultural, historical, and genealogical material.

If you are interested in donating and/or loaning any material, please contact R. Blake Norton, Tribal Archivist at 405-878-5830 ext. 7120 or bnorton@potawatomi.org.

Wife of CPN member buys North Carolina practice **Dr. Mooring passes torch**

by John Cate, staff writer, Mount Olive, North Carolina Tribune

After nearly four decades of service to the Mount Olive community, Dr. Ray Mooring had finally decided it was time to do something else. Meanwhile, about 25 miles to the north, Dr. Amy Kimes, the wife of Citizen Potawatomi Nation member Eric Kimes, was a dentist in search of a practice to call her own. The two of them got in touch with one another, a deal was struck, and so far, no one could be happier.

Dr. Kimes, a North Carolina native whose travels have taken her to Camp Lejeune, to California, and to Afghanistan as a U.S. Navy dentist, took over Dr. Mooring's 39-year-old practice at the end of May. "Dr. Mooring is leaving me a fine practice," she said. "It's been a blessing."

It's going to be a while yet, but the practice that Dr. Mooring is leaving for Dr. Kimes will become a partnership

someday. Her husband, Eric, holds an M.B.A. degree in finance and is currently helping his wife with the financial end of the practice, but is also studying to earn a D.D.S. degree of his own. "Our goal is to work together," she said.

Have good patients, need good doctor

Over the years, Dr. Mooring estimated that he had handled more than 230,000 appointments in his office, located at 236 Smith Chapel Rd. Along with all those patients came a strong sense of trust and friendships that went well beyond dentistry. In contemplating retirement, he felt he had to consider these things. "This is very emotional for me," he said. "I have patients that I've seen since they were babies. All of them want me to stay...I'd be very disappointed if they didn't."

Dr. Mooring was unwilling to retire and sell his practice to just anyone. Over the years, he said that he had always been

determined that anyone who came into his care would receive the same quality of service that they would get at a practice in a large city. "I made sure that we had the technology, support, and training to make sure our patients would receive care as good as anywhere in the world," he said.

In Dr. Kimes, he felt he had found someone to whom he could trust his practice and his longtime patients. "I'm very pleased. My goal is for our patients to receive the same quality of care they have received for the last 39 years."

So far, the patients seem to endorse Mooring's opinion. "So far, I've had a very warm reception," Kimes said "I'm from a small town in western North Carolina, and Mount Olive is a lot like home. Folks have been very friendly to me."

Encounter with the Taliban

Dr. Kimes is the first one to say that the town of Mount Olive is a lot friendlier than some of the "neighbors" she had a few years back. While she was still in the Navy, one of her postings to the U.S. Air Force base in Kandahar, Afghanistan. While her assignment was to provide dental services for U.S. troops and Afghan citizens, there was no ignoring the threat from the Taliban, the militant group which once governed the country and provided a safe haven for Osama bin Laden.

Although the Taliban were quickly defeated by the U.S. and anti-Taliban Afghan forces in the weeks after 9/11, the survivors fled into the nearly impassable Himalayan Mountains. Using their knowledge of the rough terrain only a few miles from Kandahar, Taliban guerrillas often



Dr. Ray Mooring is an institution in Mount Olive, North Carolina, having run his dental practice from his office on Smith Chapel Road ever since 1969. Mooring recently made the decision to retire after finding someone he felt comfortable entrusting his patients to. Dr. Amy Kimes (right) took over the practice last month and has been well received by the town and Dr. Mooring's patients.

launch sneak attacks on U.S. and Afghan government forces.

"Most nights, we could hear mortar fire outside," she recalled. "We did some humanitarian operations where we went out to help the people there, and traveled on some roads where I didn't feel completely safe. But I never felt scared."

The future

Dr. Mooring plans to remain with the practice on a part-time basis through July, helping to ease the transition. He has been here for most of his adult life and isn't going anywhere, although there are some deer and fish who might want to get out of town soon.

"I love to hunt, fish and shoot," he said. "I plan to do a lot of that. I'm going to get really involved in my hobby."

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Mary Killman aims for 2012 Olympics in Synchronized Swimming

CPN member to represent USA at Jr World Competition in Russia

Mary Killman, 17 and a CPN member, will represent United States Synchronized Swimming in Solo, Duet, and Team competition in St Petersburg, Russia this summer. Following a very successful season, Killman competed at the 2008 USSS Junior National competition in Clermont, Florida for the Santa Clara, California Aquamaids and took home National Championships in Solo, Duet, and Figures.

Killman started swimming at the age of two at the Edmond, Oklahoma YMCA. After Killman completed that swimming program, her teacher told her family that she would do well in competitive swimming. The only YMCA program in the area that would allow her to begin competing at the tender age of four was the Midwest City, Oklahoma YMCA.

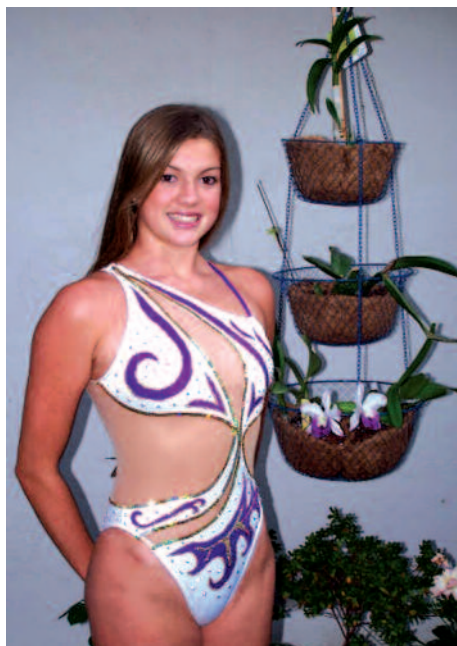
Coached by Sonny Garcia, Killman gained knowledge, strength, stamina, and a love for water sports. After a move to The Woodlands, Texas, she was accepted to swim on the WAC team but long-course just wasn't her thing.

After a year of school, she returned to swimming on a summer community team and qualified for the Ponderosa Meet. Again, a family move took her to another town - this time to "Big D (Dallas)." There, she swam for the Town North YMCA Sea Otters and qualified for the Lone Star State YMCA games.

While in Omaha, Nebraska, Killman qualified for their USA swimming state games. When the Killmans moved back to Dallas, she swam for a while for the USA swimming Richardson, Texas swim club and then settled on the GAR swim club, which later changed its name to Dallas Elite Aquatics.

Swimming for Coach Robert Coleman began a new phase of the sport for Killman. She qualified for TAGS (Texas Age Group Swimmers) from 2000-2005. At one meet, her friend Claire Evans said, "I know something you would like to do!" Thus, Killman was introduced to and then joined the Pirouettes of Texas, a synchronized swim team based in Irving. The rest is history.

As Wikipedia defines it, synchronized swimming is a hybrid of swimming, gymnastics, and dance. It consists of swimmers (individuals, duets, teams, or combos) per-



CPN member Mary Killman is on target for her goal of competing in the 2012 Olympics.

forming a synchronized routine of elaborate and dramatic moves in the water, accompanied by music. Synchronized swimming demands some water skills, and requires incredible strength, endurance, flexibility, grace, artistry, and precise timing, not to mention exceptional breath control while upside down underwater. In its early form, it was sometimes known as "water ballet."

US National Age Group competition is the largest competition of Synchronized Swimming Championships in the world. At National Age Group 2003 in Gainesville, Florida, in her first time to swim solo, Killman placed eighth, partnered with Claire Evans of Dallas in the duet and placed seventh, and was 18th in figures.

The swimmers' Figures score is worth 50% of their total score in the competition. In Figures, swimmers must perform a series of highly technical movements. In 2004, Killman placed second in Solo, third in Duet (with Evans), and fourth in Figures. In 2005, she became the 14-15 Age Group National Champion in Solo and finished fourth in Trio with Evans and Camille Driver of Irving, fourth in Team, and second in Figures. She also qualified to compete for the 2006 Junior National Team at Junior Nationals.

Preparation for that experience precipitated another move so Killman could train under the elite tutelage of Chris Carver, the 1996, 2000, and 2004 Olympic Coach for USSS and Head Coach of the world-renowned Santa Clara Aquamaids of Santa Clara, California. In 2006, she and her new duet partner, Nadia Rais of Los Gatos, California, went on to win the Age Group National Championship, while she also won figures.

At Senior Nationals, Killman's technical elements scores qualified her to compete for a spot on the United States Senior National Team. At the age of 16, she was in the top 14 finalists, from whom 12 are chosen for the 2008 Olympic team. She swam on Senior Team 2 and competed in Zurich, Switzerland. In 2007 at Junior Nationals, Killman earned National Championships in Trio and Team competition with the Junior A Santa Clara Aquamaids.

In 2008, Killman chose to compete for the USA Junior National team because the World judges look to this group as the next Olympians. FINA Jr. World will be held in St. Petersburg, Russia this year. This competition is held every other year for the top junior (14-18-year-old) competitors in the world.

Killman is proud of her Citizen Potawatomi Nation heritage. In her first solo competition in 2003, she swam accompanied by Native American flute music and wore a decoration of the CPN seal on her hip.

Killman was born in 1991 in Ada, Oklahoma and is the daughter of Bonnie and Jerry Killman. Her goal is to be a member of the 2012 U.S. Olympic Team she formerly competed in speed swimming and jazz dance and has also trained Arabian Horses and participated in purebred dog showing.

A recent edition of the Santa Clara, California *Weekly* reported: Testifying to the greatness of the Aquamaids program, over the past half-decade, the Club has earned an international reputation for producing World-class Olympic athletes, having produced nearly 60 percent of all Olympic Synchronized Swimmers representing the U.S. since becoming an Olympic sport in 1952.

Further adding to what former Mayor Gary Gillmor dubbed the "youth sports capital of the World," the Aquamaids, have won or medaled in every major national and international competition in the sport, placing more athletes on national teams than any other synchronized swimming organization, becoming the most decorated synchronized swimming club in the world.

Bertrands, con't from page 5

faced charges of trafficking liquor, based on a bogus report stemming from a year of accusations and counter-accusations between the pair.

This feud might have seemed trivial but serves as an illustration of philosophical differences between the Potawatomi factions during the Kansas allotment experiment. Alexander left Kansas and traveled to the Indian Territory after he was released for lack of evidence. He was killed for unknown reasons in 1860.

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Call the OEH

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Telephone number 405-878-4672

- Fax number 405-878-4678

Requirements....

- 1. Tribal membership/CDIB card indicating affiliation with a federally recognized tribe;**
- 2. Copy of a Warranty Deed;**
- 3. A Photo ID;**
- 4. Residence in Pottawatomie, Cleveland, Lincoln, Oklahoma, or Logan county**

Language Department News

Understanding how sentences work in Potawatomi

Usually the thing which you want to emphasize or that is most important is the word you put out front. However, word order is not as important in Potawatomi as in English because most of the information is contained in the verb. Our language is very verb-heavy.

There are four main types of verbs AI or Animate Intransitive. These are verbs that don't affect anyone but are actions performed by a living thing. For example: I read; I eat; I am going to sleep. There is a pattern which, if memorized, is very easy to put any number of verbs into.

Most letters sound as they do in Spanish, Italian, or other Romance languages.

The pattern is as follows: *Maji* is the verb to leave. *Nmaji* - I leave; *Gmaji* - You leave; *Maji* - he or she leaves; *Nmajimen* - We (-u) leave; *Gmajimen* - We all leave; *Gmajim* - You all leave; *Majik* - They leave.

The parts you really want to pay attention to are:

N ___ I
g ___ you
 ___ he/she is not marked.
N ___ men - We and not you (This excludes the listener.)
G ___ men - We all are.
G ___ m - You all.
 ___ k - they.

Also, to indicate past tense in Potawatomi, you use *gi*. For future tense, you use *wi*. The *i* sounds like *ee* in Potawatomi. So pronounce the words above "gee" and "wee".

Let us introduce a couple of couple of time-indication words, too: *Wabek* (*Wah buck*) - tomorrow; *Nago* (*Nah go*) - yesterday; *Ngom* (*n gome*) - today. Here is

a sample of verbs which also can be put into this pattern.

1. *mikchewi* - he/she works
 2. *giwe* - he/she goes home
 3. *zhech ke* - he/she does something
 4. *bidge* - he/she enters
 5. *mawjeshno* - gather somewhere
 6. *binchege* - he/she cleans
 7. *zagjese* - he/she walks outside
 8. *gwedemojge* - he/she fishes
 9. *giwse* - he/she hunts
 10. *nimedi* - he/she dances
 11. *kapi ke* - he/she makes coffees
 12. *maji* - he/she leaves
 13. *mnochege* - he/she does well
 14. *odanke* - he/she goes to town
 15. *biskonye* - he/she gets dressed
- Wabek nwi odanke*. - Tomorrow I will go to town.

Wabek - tomorrow
N - I
Wi - future
Odanke - go to town.
Nago ne ggi- giwe? Did you go home yesterday?

Nago - yesterday
Ne- indicates a question (This is usually the second word in a sentence).
G - you
Gi - past tense
Giwe - verb to go home.
Ngom nmikchewi. - I am working today.

Ngom - today
N - I
Mikchewi - verb to work.
Wabek gwi - gwedemojgemen - We are going fishing tomorrow. *Wabek* - tomorrow

gwi+men - We will do something
gwedemojge - verb to fish.
Kapi ke ne? - Is he making coffee?
Kapi ke - verb, he/she makes coffee,
ne - question mark.

Some Sacred Ways of a People The Bodéwadmik – The Potawatomi

There are several stories that attempt to address the various origins of the Potawatomi and some of their sacred rites. There are none published that detail whatever practices they might have had by way of describing a set of ceremonies they followed from year to year, or as some would call them, Rites of Passage.

We will attempt to highlight what we have come to know and accept as not only Potawatomi Rites of Passage, but an observance of ceremonies throughout a Potawatomi's life. We begin at birth and, in the next several editions of the HowNiKan, follow a hypothetical child through life and list some of the sacred rites he would follow as a Potawatomi. We begin with...

The Naming Ceremony

The first ceremony any child would go through in a typical cultural observance is the naming ceremony, usually taking place after the child's first 28 days. A Potawatomi child is usually not even seen or recognized as officially alive by the father until after he has been named. Then, and only then, would the father ask to see his son or daughter. Usually, the child was introduced to the rest of the family group and other people.

Prayers would be offered by the mother and any female relatives, along with the attending elder, who would bestow the name on the child for the child's future welfare - that he would be a good hunter or nurturer throughout the course of his life. Blessings would be asked by the conferring elder, to assure the child would amount to something in life and that he/she would follow the traditional ways of the people in the accepted fashion.

Acquiring a name assured the child's place in the tribe's cultural structure and gave the child a place in the universal structure by introducing him/her as a human being with a formal identity. Names were important from that perspective because it was that name that would identify him to the spiritual world upon the passing from this life into the next world.

Names had special meaning for Neshnabek children, and they were told the meanings of their names when they were old enough to fully comprehend. Fast accompanied the bestowing of some names, to ask for special, additional blessings, especially thunder clan and crane clan names.

However, there were other clans that carried similar responsibilities. The name given had to follow clan lines and, usually, had been

in the family before it was conferred upon the child. It was common among the Neshnabek that a person could earn more than one name during one's lifetime depending on the types of accomplishments one might achieve. Usually, the name given for something such as an accomplishment would have special significance for the person earning that right and depicted the person's character.

The Puberty Fast

Prior to a child's puberty fast, he was commonly asked to go without food and water, often from sun up to sundown.

The mother or grandmother would blacken the face of the young child. He would be told the fast was to strengthen him for future such ordeals. Blackening the face meant it was marked for that purpose to the spirits/mnedos to protect the young one while he was fasting.

The face-blackening was usually accomplished with charcoal from the stove or campfire, with three marks. There were two vertical marks on each cheek and one long horizontal one on the forehead. These represented the Jibamen - body, soul, and spirit of the child.

From about the age of four or five until puberty, the young child undertook these types of fasts to prepare her for her life as a Neshnabe. Approaching puberty, the young person was watched with great interest by its elders so they would know when to place the child out for her first long fast, usually four days in length.

Puberty was chosen as an age at which to put a young person out to seek a guardian spirit because that was the age when young people began to experience subtle body changes: hair growth, voice changes among young men, and noticing sexual differences among themselves.

It was a commonly held practice among most Neshnabek to foster wholesome thoughts toward the opposite sex, respect for what their own bodies were going through, and seeking the aid of a mnedo/spirit to help them throughout their lives.

Many young people did not fast after their puberty fast, while some chose to participate in a Vision Quest to examine what their fates might be as war leaders, medicine people, and other vocations within their tribal structure.

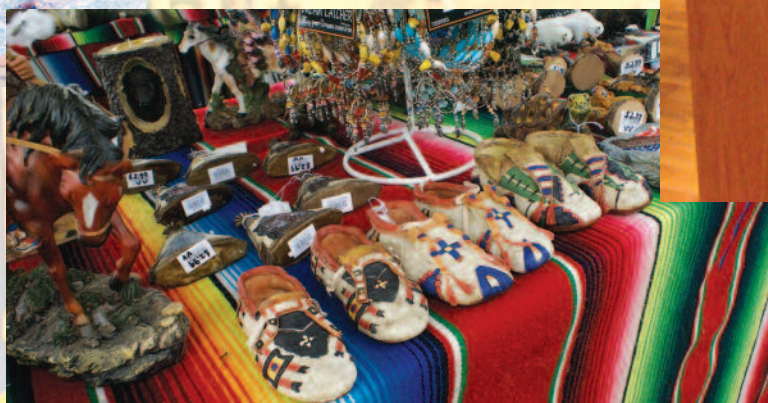
**Listen to "The Native American Speaks"
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on Sunday mornings
or on www.Potawatomi.org anytime**

Family Reunion



n Festival 2008





Here's hoping all who attended enjoyed every precious moment of Family
join us for the Festival in 2009 - June 26, 27, and
Acton, Bergeron, Curley, Delonais, Grees



The *HowNiKan* thanks photographers Nathan McKay, Meredith Everett, Kelvin Allen, Charles Meloy, Gus Porter, Jay Stevens, Damian Stevens, Jason Britain, Amanda Herrick, Dane Smart, and Michael Dodson for their fine work depicting the joy, fun, and family togetherness of Family Reunion Festival 2008. Hundreds of their photos will be posted on www.Potawatomi.org, and more will be shared in the August *HowNiKan*.

Reunion Festival 2008. May you remain healthy and prosperous until you
d 28. The 2009 Honored Reunion Families are
emore, Levier, Negahnquet, and Pambogo.

Quality Housing for Quality People



* The CPN offers a quality-of-life upgrade at its CPN Elders Village in beautiful, friendly Rossville, Kansas. The spacious housing units offer two bedrooms and come equipped with ALL major appliances.

* All of this is available for a sliding scale rent that maxes out at \$250/month. **YOU WILL PAY NO MORE THAT !!**

* For a short time only, your seventh month is free with a one-year commitment.

* We are developing a shuttle service to transport our Potawatomi residents to locations in Rossville and nearby Topeka for medically necessary reasons.



* The CPN Elders Village is a short walk or a quick car trip from anything you need in Rossville. Topeka, the Kansas capitol, with all the shopping, entertainment, medical services, and other amenities you need is a very short 15-minute trip away.

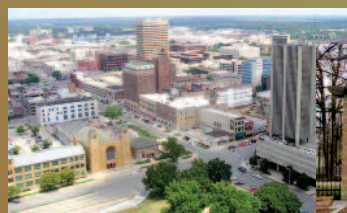
* Rossville is traditional Potawatomi land; reminders of our past are everywhere. The people of Rossville are very welcoming and accommodating.



* Groups of Potawatomis from in and around Rossville are using the community center for social activities and learning opportunities. Recently, there have been dress-making and powwow dance classes.



Your home can be like this - with a spacious living area and bedrooms along with a well-equipped kitchen and utility room!!



The Kansas capitol, Topeka, is a 15-minute drive away, with plenty of shopping and lots of recreational activities, from a top-notch zoo to the trails in Shanga Park to the Summer Nationals drag-racing event.

Enhance your quality of life!

Call Scott George at 405-273-2833 or 800-880-9880 for more important details.

Legislators' Columns

Dist. #1 Rep. Roy Slavin

Bozho,

As always the Family Reunion Festival was a great cultural and learning event, with so many friends and family (and aren't we all family?) in attendance. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the Slavin family descendents who were there. WHAT A SHOWING!

I also want to thank all the District #1 members who came by and introduced themselves. I have already received e-mails and letters with suggestions, comments, and inquiries about services that are available. As I said in my previous articles, I hope to hear from every member of District #1 in the coming year.

Our office is almost complete and I will soon announce an open house that every member will be invited to attend, to come and meet with their extended family. Here is what reporter John Schultz said about the new office in a recent edition of the Kansas City Star: **"The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's office will serve sprawling district - by JOHN SHULTZ The Kansas City Star"**

Platte County, Missouri will soon see the opening of a unique new office. Sometime in the next month or so, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will open a governmental office on Tower Drive in Platte Woods. The location will serve as a site for educational and cultural events and for information on health and employment services the group offers its members.

Overseeing the operation will be Roy Slavin, recently elected legislator for the tribe, which boasts some 27,000 members. About 10,000 of them are in Oklahoma. Slavin said the tribe restructured its government this year, leading to the opening of the local office. 'Prior to February, all five of our legislators were in Oklahoma, and it was basically an Oklahoma affair,' he said. 'But we're one of the larger tribes, and we have members all over America. So we decided our members in the outlying areas should be represented.'

Slavin's district, District #1, incorporates about 3,000 members. But his territory is sweeping - District #1 includes



everything east of Missouri and north of Arkansas.

Slavin said the office will not be an "always-open" operation, but will open for special events and by appointment. For more information on programs offered by the nation, call 866-741-5767.

Indian nation opens office in Northland

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's office will serve sprawling district.

By JOHN SHULTZ
The Kansas City Star

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Slavin said the tribe restructured its government this year, leading to the opening of the local office.

"Prior to February, all eight of our legislators were in Oklahoma, and it was basically an Oklahoma affair," he said. "But we're one of the larger tribes, and we have members all over America. So we decided our members in the outlying areas should be represented."

Slavin's district, District 1, incorporates about 3,000 members. But his territory is sweeping — District 1 includes everything east of Missouri and north of Arkansas.

Slavin said the office will not be an "always-open" operation, but will open for special events and by appointment.

For more information on programs offered by the nation, call 1-866-741-5767.

I realize for some it will be too great a distance to travel, to remedy that I hope to have meetings in some of the more densely populated portions of District #1. But please remember I am no further away than your telephone or computer and I encourage you to voice your opinions, concerns, and suggestions for improving services that are offered or services that

you would like to see offered.

We had many Naming Ceremonies at the reunion festival, and I hope to do more in our own district. I have been told by those who received their names that they feel more connected to the Nation and their heritage.

We also had a wedding ceremony performed by Chairman John Barrett. It was

very beautiful. For those of you who might be considering marriage, this might be an option you may want to consider.

Again I want to thank all who attended the festival and the district #1 members who made themselves known to me.

Megwetch,

Roy Slavin

Legislator District #1

Dist. #2 Rep. Eva Marie Carney

Hello, Fellow CPN District #2 Citizens,

I hope you each has the opportunity some day, if you haven't yet been, to attend the annual Family Reunion Festival. What a great three-day, weekend-long reunion of Potawatomi! I was so proud to be part of our Nation during Festival weekend.

This was my first Festival, and I learned an incredible amount about Potawatomi heritage, ceremonies, dance, and regalia - and even fun pastimes, like fry bread-cooking and Indian hand games (I was honored to be one of the competition judges for both the fry bread-making and the hand games competitions - lots of fun!). But mostly I got to meet fellow Potawatomis and our families and friends. A number of you stopped by the legislators' tent to introduce yourselves, and I thank you for that!

As you may remember from my earlier columns, I am really eager to gather up contact details for folks in District #2, particularly e-mail addresses, since e-mail is fast and free. To enhance our communication, I'd propose to send this column to all of you by e-mail as soon as I've completed it; that'll be a couple weeks before you receive the *HowNiKan*. I also will send updates on legislative issues, and short surveys to get your thoughts, as the issues and initiatives start percolating. So, if you will e-mail me with your contact details, we can get the communication started! Please send your e-mail to ecarney4cpndistrict2@gmail.com and ECarney@Potawatomi.org.

Vice Chairman Linda Capps and I spoke after our July 1 legislative session about setting a date for a Naming Ceremony near



Washington, D.C. for those of you in District #2 who returned your naming request forms to Shawnee a few years ago. As you know, Chairman John Barrett and Vice Chairman Capps were unable to travel to the Washington D.C. to conduct the Naming Ceremonies, though they did chose our names. (I was on their list and was thrilled to get my name, Ojindiskwe - translation: Bluebird Woman), before the first legislative session in April.)

If you, too, are on the list, you will be hearing from us soon; the Naming Ceremonies for this group likely will be in mid- to late-September, at my home in Arlington. For everyone else who is interested in receiving a Potawatomi name, please contact me. My plan is to gather the information, pick a few fairly central locations based on everyone's hometown, and schedule some weekend ceremonies over the next months.

So much of our ceremonies are new to me, as they may be to many of you. I learned in April that our tradition is for the namer to gift an eagle feather to the person who receives her Potawatomi name. Eagle feathers are in short supply and highly controlled by the U.S. government, though, and the Chairman, who named me, had no feather to give.

There is a tedious process by which one applies to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Eagle Repository, for a permit to keep eagle feathers in one's possession, certifying that they are for religious purposes. The application also requests that the federal government send loose feathers, wings, or even a whole bird. The Chairman has to sign our applications, and the wait can be long. For more details, see www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/law/eagle and www.fws.gov/pacific/ea/tribal/pdf/Eagle_Feathers_Application.pdf.

I mailed in an application in May and just got my "permit" but am waiting for the feathers (requests for whole birds apparently can take between three and four years). I hope to have some feathers to gift to those of you who are named in September -- we'll see.

But there is the possibility of a wonderful change! We as a Nation may in the future have our own abundant supply of eagle feathers, if the CPN receives a grant for which we will be applying soon. The Legislature voted on July 1 to pursue grant funding for an aviary for injured eagles, to be built on trust land in Shawnee. The aviary would not only be a source of eagle feathers but would allow us and our children to nurture and learn more about these noble birds, which in our tradition are so revered because they are the highest fliers and thus of all the birds are closest to the

Creator.

Even with grant funding the aviary project will be costly for us, but I hope you see the value in it that we legislators did in voting to pursue the grant process.

Our District #2 office is still "in process." I am pulling together a library of books and CDs on Potawatomi heritage, language, and similar topics. (Did you know there's a Webster's Potawatomi-English Dictionary and Thesaurus available through Amazon.com? I now have it.) If you will be in Washington, I invite you to come and browse the collection. I would be honored to meet with you. The address is CPN, Legislative District #2 Office, The Portrait Building, 701 8th Street NW, Suite 340, Washington, DC 20001.

We don't have a phone there yet, so for now you can reach me through the Tribe's 800 number. The location is great; it's near a number of Metro (subway) stops, across the street from the Portrait Gallery and Smithsonian American Art Museum, and within walking distance of the National Mall and all its museums and monuments and happenings. And, the great Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian is a subway ride away.

Please write or call with your thoughts and contact details. And do check out www.evamariecarney.com from time to time for updates, including photographs taken during various Naming Ceremonies, a Potawatomi wedding officiated by Chairman Barrett during the Festival weekend, and photographs of other Festival events. You may spot a cousin or two among them.

Megwetch,
Eva Marie Carney/Ojindiskwe
Legislator, District #2

Dist. #3 Rep. Robert Whistler

Bozho jayek (Hello everyone)!

Our 2008 Family Reunion Festival was a roaring success! There were more than 4,500 family members and guests who registered this year.

As usual there was literally something for everyone. I had the opportunity to judge both the Fry Bread and Hand Games contests. In the Fry Bread competition, we had a young lady, maybe 12 to 14 years of age, who had never made Fry Bread. Everyone cooks on an open fire. She took

third prize. The Hand Games were also won by a fairly youthful group, comprised mainly of the 2008 Potawatomi Leadership Program participants. It is so wonderful to see our youth jumping in and competing successfully.

Some of the other activities included a Shawl Ribbon Strip Machine Class, Pow Wow Dance Lessons, and several Potawatomi language classes to help many learn more about our heritage, culture, and language. There were several sessions at

the Cultural Heritage Center to learn and historically record information on our families and Veterans.

The main event on Saturday night was our Grand Entry and Pow Wow dancing. We had one of the largest turnouts ever for this family dance to honor our past relatives, veterans, and the families being honored this year. That evening the veterans had their own drum, and played an original song, which was a first!

There were several Naming Ceremonies held this year. I attended the one on Sunday morning, and there had to be more than 30 members named. There was also a wedding ceremony. It was very beautiful and moving. More and more CPN members are getting their Native American names. If you haven't received yours, you should really look into it.

My wife and daughter took the tours to our FireLake Grand Casino and Sacred Heart. They said it was wonderful to see both our newest major enterprise along with a glimpse of our history, firsthand. If you haven't had the opportunity to see these two facilities, it should be a must on your next visit.

Our annual election was held, and the number of citizens voting this year was disappointing. The total votes in this year's election from all tribal members, was only 1,064 votes cast out of 21,277 eligible voters. For District 3, only 78 of the 1889 eligible voters requested absentee ballots. Of those, only 50 voted.

I know that it may be a little different for many to vote absentee, but the election oversight committee sent each of us a request for an absentee ballot along with a postage-paid return envelope. Obviously with our proximity to Shawnee, many of you no doubt voted on election day while you were at our annual meeting.

This last year, we had a number of elections because of the change in the constitution. This included electing legislators and a run-off election. Possibly next year it will be easier. I urge each of you to vote at every opportunity. We are moving into new territory, and new legislation is being developed and voted on at each legislative meeting.

At our third legislative session on the Monday following Family Reunion Festival, we voted on 16 new resolutions. One of those dealt with laying the groundwork to get more federal funds for all districts (inside and outside Oklahoma) for a future family voucher service.



Dealing with the federal government is a slow process and it takes time to make changes. Fortunately, with the staff we have in Shawnee, along with our leadership, I feel we will make headway and more benefits and services will ultimately get out and be available in all districts.

Another resolution dealt with admitting 90 new members into our Nation. They ranged in age from 60 years to about 7 weeks old. A third of them live in Oklahoma and we had two new inductees from District 3. I am so happy to see new members being added since it ensures we will have future leaders and continue the CPN way.

During the festival, we had a tent for the legislators. Each of us spent some time there to meet our own district members. We had signup slips for everyone to leave their name, phone number, and/or email address so we can communicate more quickly with you on a local level. For filling out the slips we offered a drawing for prizes that ranged from blankets to leather organizers. We had about 70 entries for the drawing including six from Texas, one of whom won a leather organizer.

I would like to develop a local e-mail list to distribute information and would appreciate your e-mailing me at: RWhistler@Potawatomi.org.

As a side note, in last month's *HowNiKan*, there was a subscription request blank. By filling this out and returning it, you will ultimately get your *HowNiKan* faster, and the cost to the Nation will be reduced. If you missed seeing the form, contact me and I will get you another one. And, the form makes an encore appearance in this month's *HowNiKan*, on page 3.

Before closing for this month, let me share some **News You Can Use!** As part of the plan with the new government, each district is to have a local office where you can come in to visit and sit in on legislative Webcasts if you desire. We have leased an office in Bedford, and the address is:

**Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Oakwood Plaza
112 Bedford Road Suite 116-Q
Bedford, TX 76022**

For the time being, until we get a phone

installed, use my current telephone number, 817-868-9928.

As a final note, let me say thank you to each of you who have already contacted me for information on housing, medical care, etc. I am here to serve you, and want you to contact me.

Migwetch (Thank you) and have a safe month!

Bob Whistler – *B'mashi (He soars)*
RWhistler@Potawatomi.org
817-868-9928

District #4 Rep. Theresa Adame

Dear Citizens,

I hope you and your family had a safe trip home from Family Reunion Festival. It was a beautiful, event-filled weekend.

I want to thank Lyman Boursaw and all the retiring regional directors. They were presented a plaque at Regional Council for their service to our tribe. I have been asked many times, "Will we (continue to) have regional meetings?" The answer is, "No." We will continue to have meetings in our area but not in the format we have had in the past. With the constitutional change, we are now represented in districts not regions.

The subject of lack of proper attire in the dance arena on Saturday night came up for discussion after the festival. It is a tough subject, and we had various ideas among the legislators.

Do you not allow people without regalia in the Grand Entry? Some thought the problem might lie with our lack of educating our citizens.

What is proper etiquette? I am educating my family and making sure they have at least a shawl for the women and a sash or vest for the men when entering the arena. I was also told by my dad's cousin that a woman's hands are always covered by the shawl in the arena.

I have heard over and over, "My family doesn't have anything (with regard to regalia.)" I know for many of you it is because you did not grow up wearing regalia. I am trying very hard to bring cultural education sessions to Rossville. If you have never sewn or sew very little, please join us. Then, next year, you can proudly wear your own creation.

I will end this subject with a quote from Identity of Design Smithsonian: "A Native



woman's traditional dress today remains a symbol of her evolving cultural identity, communicating solidarity with her adaptive, resilient people and manifesting a shared sense of beauty and spirit."

My first meeting in District #4 will be the open house I mentioned in the June *HowNiKan*. Citizens can tour my office in the Rossville elders housing complex on July 26 at 10:00 a.m. We will then move to the center at 11:00 for a meeting. I would like input and suggestions for the Fourth District.

We will break after the meeting for a potluck lunch, ribbonwork in the afternoon, and a family naming ceremony in the evening. You are welcome to attend any or all of the activities.

I will close with a reminder that, if you want notification of activities in our district by e-mail, send me a note to TAdame@Potawatomi.org. I will add you name to the list.

Migwetch,
Theresa Adame
Legislator, District #4

District #5 Rep. Gene Lambert

Bozho,

The Family Reunion Festival was phenomenal. We truly wish you could have been there, if you were not. I believe we had more than 4,600 friends and family for three days. There was camping and RVing, while some preferred a hotel and others attending lived locally.

You could not ask for a better prepared family reunion. It would not be too early to plan on next year. You could start now to make that happen. If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

During the Council Meeting on Saturday, the Regional Directors were acknowledged for their past service and the new legislators were introduced as our new constitution goes into action.

The 5th District office site has been chosen. It is at 90 West Boston St, Chandler, Arizona. I tried to keep everything close to the San Marcus Hotel, because we have had so many wonderful yearly meetings there. Everyone seems to appreciate the small town atmosphere.

Our systems have been set up, and you will be able to sit in on the legislative meeting that is going on in Oklahoma at the time it happens. All I need from you is an e-mail address to let you know ahead of time when the meetings will occur. If you



do not have e-mail access, your phone number would be the next choice for contact.

As you know, this is the beginning of a new era for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. I would appreciate any comments or suggestions or your relaying any concerns you might have about our future. It isn't about what I think. It is about what we can do and how you can best be served since we do live outside Oklahoma.

Perhaps you would like to have smaller local gatherings to discuss concerns from each area.

Migwetch,
Gene Lambert

District #6 Rep. Ron Goyer

Bozho Nikanek, (Hello Friends),

The Family Reunion Festival was held as always on the last weekend of June in Shawnee, Oklahoma. This was an excellent opportunity for all of our families to get together and enjoy each other's company. Good food, good company, and fun activities were a welcome change for everyone. This was also an important time to learn more about our history, language, benefits of tribal membership, and tribal enterprises and participate in the General Council meeting.

The General Council meeting is important for everyone to participate in, as it is informative on several levels. I encourage everyone to participate and attend this event next year.

As always, please remember to vote in any upcoming elections. It is important that everyone be involved in the electoral process. I would like to see a greater vot-



ing participation, as it is necessary as your representative to understand the wants, needs, and general consensus of the tribal members in our district.

In conclusion, I have located a possible

site for our new regional office for District #6. The site chosen will soon be the meeting place to enjoy all of the things I mentioned in an earlier edition of the *HowNiKan* concerning our own district.

If you find the time in the near future to e-mail me with your contact information, I can keep you apprised of any and all future activities in our region. I want to see all of you at our quarterly regional gathering in San Diego County as soon as it can be

arranged.

So again, please, even if you don't plan on attending, your contact information is essential to the successful planning and growth of our regional offices. (So, send it SOON!!!)

Bama Pi (see you later),
Ron Goyer *MASKNINYE*
P.O. Box 2514
San Marcos Ca, 92079
760-617-1597 cell phone

District #7 Rep. Thom Finks

Bozho, Nikan,

I hope everyone had as good a time as I did at Festival this year. The weather was great. (Okay, there were a few sprinkles at the powwow grounds on Saturday evening but overall it was great.) Everyone I spoke to were enjoying themselves and had nothing but good things to say.

I'd like to thank all the CPN employees as well as staff for all their hard work. I'm afraid sometimes we forget how difficult it is to put on an event of this size. The grounds are constantly being cleaned and picked up. Cold drinking water is supplied. And, how about feeding all the attendees breakfast, lunch, and dinner?

If you take a moment and think about it, the logistics are overwhelming but you never blinked. My hat is off to each and every one of you. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. Thank you, thank you.

I'd like to congratulate and welcome back both Pauls, Paul Schmidlkofer and Paul Wesselhoft, to the CPN Legislature. Both were returned by the voters in their respective legislative districts. Both of these gentlemen are outstanding and bring a lot of knowledge and caring to the legislature. I'd also like to mention the gentlemen who also ran for the two available legislative positions, Chad Higbee and Norman Brasfield. Thank you for caring and running for office.

Speaking of the legislature, we had a full day on Monday June 30. The legislature convened at approximately 9 a.m. and continued working until 4 p.m. with a full agenda of tribal business to attend to. Unfortunately, our legislator from District #8 (the Northwest U.S.), Jacqueline Taylor, was unable to attend this year's Festival. We were able to connect her via teleconferencing to the legislative chamber where she was able to participate in the legislative session from her home.



I know how hard it is being temporarily out of commission, having been in a wheel chair for a while. But, as always, the staff and employees of the Nation made it as comfortable as they could and it is greatly appreciated. I hope Jacqueline feels better in the very near future and is able to join us in our next session.

For myself, with the help of some gifted surgeons and the Creator, I hope to be recovered from my hip replacement surgery and back at 100% before the next session of the legislature. If not, perhaps next session it will be me watching and listening via teleconferencing.

I hope everyone was able to see and hear the Veterans drum on Saturday night. For the first time ever, a Potawatomi drum played at the festival. It had to be intimidating to say the least to come out in front of everyone and set up next to a "professional drum (Rough Arrow)" and play. Congratulations and thank you. I hope to hear more in the future.

The legislative offices are being set up. About one-third of them are finished or near completion. Soon, every district will have an office to call its own. If time and distance allow, tribal members will be able to go to the various offices and attend a legislative session via teleconferencing

equipment that will be available at every district office. If you aren't within close proximity to the district office, the legislative sessions will be broadcast live via internet streaming live on www.Potawatomi.org and available to tribal members on their personal computers.

This legislature was put in place for many reasons but I believe one of the most important things that has come of it is the ability for all tribal members to interact with YOUR tribal government. The formation of this style of government is like no other in Indian Country. You'll have an office to contact through that office and the legislator who is YOUR elected voice to YOUR government. You have live, online ability to hear as well as see what your government is doing.

I believe I speak for all of my fellow legislators when I say that one of the most

talked about challenges of this legislature is the ability to interact with everyone. It allows us to serve you to the best of our ability and make sure the flow of information regarding services available in your area are known to you. I know we'll all work diligently to provide that to you.

In closing, I'd like to also wish the best and say thank you so very much to all of the Regional Directors past and present for their dedication and hard work. As a former regional director, I know that what has taken so long to accomplish would never have gotten off the ground without the hard work of this dedicated band of individuals.

Again thank you, thank you. You'll not soon be forgotten.

Megwitch,
Thom Finks
Legislator, District #7

District #9 Rep. Paul Wesselhöft

Bozho,

I want to thank Oklahoma (District #9) voters for placing their trust in me as their representative in our national legislature. I will diligently serve you and represent your goals for our Nation. I thank you with all my heart!

July 29th will tell us if Moore and South Oklahoma City will return me to the Oklahoma state capitol for another two years as a State Representative. Yes, I will have stood for election three times in five months.

We had our second assembled Potawatomi legislative session. (We previously had some resolutions telephonically approved as well). Among other issues, we passed a number of federal grant proposals that will enrich our tribe in numerous ways.

I look forward to our third legislative session, for which I will propose a few bills. I will publish those bills in the near future. One will be a constitutional amendment that will ultimately need approved by all CPN members.

I have given Vice Chairwoman Linda Capps a bag of the best tobacco that I could buy; and she promises to bestow upon me an Indian name. I am excited by this prospect and will wait until Linda feels the time is just right.

My state legislative colleagues tease me about being a blue-eyed Indian and insist that my Indian name should be "Dances



with Nobody."

The Family Festival and reunion was simply spectacular! I thoroughly enjoyed it and became acquainted with a lot of people; so many of them have become my friends. I was really impressed by our Nation's employees and their dedication to making the festival a great success. And I appreciate the tribal member employees who sacrificed their day to serve all of us.

Again, I thank you for your trust. I am well prepared to serve you. I remind you that being your Representative is more than an honor; it's a duty.

Megwetch,
Representative Paul Wesselhöft,
Oklahoma, District #9

District #10 Rep. David Barrett

Bozho,

As one of your legislators, I am here to listen when you tell me your needs. The only way that any of the legislators can do this is to have some sort of correspondence via telephone, e-mail, in person, mail, or your voting. Some of you may feel uncomfortable talking with us, thinking it will do no good, or that your questions are insignificant. However, I've always been told that "the only dumb question is the one that's never asked?"

During the festival, the legislators had a tent assigned to us so members could easily find us to talk to us. Additionally, we visited with members throughout the festival grounds. Speaking for the legislators, I can say that we had many visitors and answered many questions.

Those of you who missed or couldn't make the festival this year missed a good time and great food. Please try to attend next year; however, we are available all year so you don't have to wait for festival time.

Chairman John Barrett made a comment in the General Council meeting about invoking the Grandmothers to get more participation in voting. How are you really going to feel like you had a part of doing something for the Nation if you don't even vote? All the Potawatomi who have received college tuition, health aids, prescriptions, clinic services, use of the wellness center or senior center, housing assistance, or use of the cultural heritage center or who has purchased gas or groceries or any of the other numerous amenities that the Nation offers should realize that all this was accomplished by the Nation's leadership's having a vision of securing a future for our next generation to continue to have what we are enjoying now.

Where are all the votes from all Potawatomi who have participated in any of the above items? Let us pause for a moment and ask, "What if, all of this was taken away and all we had to do to get the same things was to have yes votes from 50 %-plus-1 of all voting age members?" Judging by our past voting records, we would be in a world of hurt.

You say, "My vote won't matter."



Nonsense! Your vote is needed. Approximately 4,500 Citizen Potawatomi members and their family members attended the festival. Let's say that half were eligible to vote. There were just 454 votes cast in the District #9 and 451 votes cast in the District #12 legislative elections. Where were the other 2000 voters?

All members should make sure you are getting the *HowNiKan* by giving us your current mailing address. In this issue is a copy of the legislators and the committees they serve on. One of the committees that I serve on is the Health and Human Services. I was able to see the Office of Environmental Health in action. That allows me to say, "You're in good hands" when OEH personnel go on location for water well or septic system installations or inspections or connections to rural water delivery systems, etc. They are doing their jobs the Potawatomi way - "pride with utmost professionalism."

I would like to let you members know of another small detail that goes unpraised without the department's seeking attention for itself. These are the people who spray the FireLake Grand Casino and areas in the city of Dale. My hat is off to all departments that extend themselves with pride, not expecting to be praised. It does not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Megwetch

David Barrett *Mnedobe*

Legislator, District #10

District #11 Rep. Lisa Kraft

Thank you so much for making Festival 2008 a remarkable experience, in particular:

- Chairman Barrett and Vice Chairman Capps for nurturing the concept of a Citizen Potawatomi family for well over 25 years, providing the resources to hold the annual festival, and for passing along your cultural knowledge to all of us;

- Tribal employees for working through the festival weekend to make our people feel so welcome; and

- Potawatomi citizens for making the festival part of your family's summer celebration.

Participating in Grand Entry this year was very special for me, for many reasons. To honor my previous Potawatomi mentors, I wore the same dress I was named in more than 10 years ago. This dress will be handed down to my only niece when she comes of age. It was the first time that I danced to honor my Potawatomi father; it was his first time to see me dance. And, it was the first time that I danced in the arena as a tribal leader.

A friend of mine asked why I was so somber during my dancing. And after reflecting for this column, I should have answered him more thoughtfully. As a mother, it is my responsibility to teach my very young son dignity and respect for our family - both living and in spirit. I may not keep perfect beat with the drum, but I try to step in conservative rhythm so that I dance without setting myself apart as if in competition. And, I might not have all of the accoutrements of my regalia. But, at a minimum, I carry a shawl out of respect for tradition. These things I learned from my grandmother, by watching and listening.

Before she passed away in 1993, my Grandma Mae (Ara Mae) was active in the Potawatomi Pow Wow Club, like many of your mothers and grandmothers from Shawnee. My grandmother would have been the first to smile, laugh, and joke with her friends at a gathering, but she was always a picture of grace before the flag and in memory of others. Her shawl and those of the other Potawatomi women set them apart from other Indians in Shawnee. Just as I would not wear a bathing suit to mass out of reverence to God or my pajamas to a job interview out of respect for



myself and that of a future employer, I take great pride in my regalia and dancing in Grand Entry.

Unfortunately, I was the only one in my O'Connor family and perhaps the O'Bright family to represent Mary Peltier, our family's founding matriarch. When my son reached up for my hand during the round dance, I had to keep myself composed or else risk a flood of tears. I thought of the seeds being planted in his young mind, just as my grandmother planted them in mine.

Next year, I hope to be surrounded in the dance arena by my family. I want my son to learn by example and through experience. So, with that I offer the following suggestions for next year's festival:

1. Exempt tribal-member employees from their festival work obligations so they may attend the festival with their families;

2. Split the dancing into two nights, as suggested by Chairman Barrett, with social and competition dances on Friday and Grand Entry and family honor dancing on Saturday;

3. Ask the Potawatomi Leadership Program students to reenact a historic Potawatomi event or creation myth. These young students could also hold mock debates about current issues in Indian Country;

4. Request each honored family appoint their oldest female family member to bring her traditional bowl and dice to the reunion tent next year to teach her extended family how to play the Potawatomi dice game. Families could exchange prizes of fringe,

beads, cloth, leather, and jewelry for each other's regalia. They could also play again the following year to win back exchange gifts.

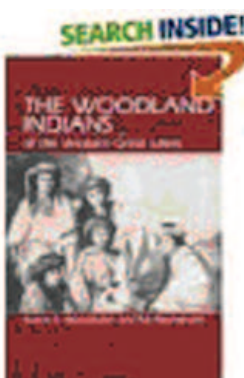
Suggested readings:

F e e s t , Christian and R. David Edmunds . "Indians and a Changing Frontier: The Art of George Winter . " Indiana University Press, 1993. Visually and poetically, this is perhaps the best way to become familiar with what our Mission/Citizen Potawatomi members looked like and how they lived on the eve of their forced removal from Indiana. It will leave a lasting impression on you when you remember that this histo-



ry is ours alone.

Ritzenthaler, Robert and Pat. "The Woodland Indians of the Western Great Lakes." Waveland Press, 1991. For a description of the dice game, read page 115. Potawatomi material culture is almost indistinguishable from the Menomini and early Chippewa and Ottawa people. Since these tribes all speak the same Algonquian language, albeit with subtle dialects, many of their objects and dress were constructed and used in similar fashions. As the tribes were made more distinct by historical encounters, stylized differences began to appear in color choices and patterns.



District #13 Rep. Bobbie Bowden

Bozho, Nikan!

I hope this edition finds you all home safely after your trip to Oklahoma for this year's Family Reunion Festival. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting as many of you as I was able to and hope all of you enjoyed the festivities. The tribal employees truly need to be commended for their hard work; without them the festival would not be possible. So my heartfelt thanks goes out to each of you.

Also **CONGRATULATIONS** to the two returning legislative representatives, Paul Wesselhoft, District #9, and Paul Schmidlkofer, District #12. I look forward to continue working with both of you.

With that said I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little about my "day job." Currently, I am Vice President and Branch Manager for an abstract and title company in the Oklahoma City area. I have been with this company for more than 12 years, and still today the best part of my job is being a part of and watching people as they close on what may be their first home or their dream home.

There is so much being said about the national real estate market about the possibility that this is a very unstable time to purchase a home. However, you should keep in mind that the national statistics have affected us here in Oklahoma very little.

If home ownership is something that you are interested in, I encourage you to utilize our tribal benefits and resources to obtain your goal. Working together, we can help each other prosper for our future. In addition to the tribal assistance with clos-



ing costs, our bank has an outstanding mortgage department. Please contact tribal headquarters for information on the closing costs assistance or you may contact the mortgage department at First National Bank at 405-275-8830 or 800-227-8362.

A home is usually one of the largest investments you make in your lifetime. The actual purchase and closing process can be stressful and confusing. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me. I will do my best to answer any questions you might have. I can be reached by e-mail at BBowden@Potawatomi.org.

Thank you once again for allowing me to serve you. I promise to do my best to serve you well.

Megwetch,
Bobbie Bowden

CPN Legislative Committees Membership & Areas of Concern

Rules & Government

John Barrett – Eva Marie Carney – Bobbie Bowden – Robert Whistler – Paul Schmidlkofer
District affairs, Tribal Rolls, Elections, Redistricting & Apportionment, and Citizen Communication

Judiciary & Public Safety

John Barrett – Eva Marie Carney – Paul Wesselhoft – District #8 Representative – David Barrett
Police, Emergency & Safety, Civil & criminal Code Enforcement, Courts, Tags, Indian Child Welfare, and Family Preservation

Health & Human Services

Linda Capps – Roy Slavin – Theresa Adame – Gene Lambert – David Barrett
Elders, Housing, Health Facilities, Licensing & Inspections, Office of Environmental Health, Health Aid Foundation, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program, and Veterans

Natural Resources

Linda Capps – Lisa Kraft – Ron Goyer – Thom Finks – Bobbie Bowden
Agriculture, Environmental Issues, Energy, Utilities, Telecommunications, Wildlife, Facilities, Roads, Construction, and Realty

Education

D. Wayne Trousdale – Paul Wesselhoft – Roy Slavin – Gene Lambert – District #8 Representative
Employment & Training, Scholarships, Child Development, Higher Education, and Job Pride

Tribal Culture & Arts

D. Wayne Trousdale – Thom Finks – Ron Goyer – Paul Schmidlkofer – Lisa Kraft
Family Reunion Festival, Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations, Cultural Heritage Center, Language, Ceremonies, NAGPRA, Arts, and Games & Sports

Economic Development & Commerce

John Barrett – Linda Capps – D. Wayne Trousdale – Robert Whistler – Theresa Adame
Tribal Enterprises, Banking Industry, Technology, Insurance, CPN Batch Plant, and the Community Development Corporation

Appropriations & Budget

All Legislators (Committee of the Whole)
Tax Commission and Annual Budgets

Chairman John Barrett

Bozho, Nikan (Hello, my friends),

The 2008 Heritage Festival was a great success. More than 4,500 Citizen Potawatomi and family registered and participated this year. The Reunion families had a great time and, as usual, new relatives were introduced to each other and old family ties renewed. I was especially excited to see the Slavin and Higbee families in special family shirts and regalia, some even with family banners as they entered the dance arena for the Grand Entry and the Honor Dances.

The new format of having the Honor Dance led by a family veteran or veterans chosen before the dance was a great success. With other families entering the dance arena from all four directions to dance behind the honored family as their song was sung, the participation was greatly increased. This tradition of honoring a family by dancing behind them after they are all in the circle is very old.

Each of the eight families who had a five-year reunion this year had a special song. The Veterans' Honor Guard looked

spectacular in their new vests and regalia, plus performing the first drum song by a Citizen Potawatomi drum in our Heritage Festival's history. Great job, gentlemen!

I want to thank all of the Nation's employees who worked so hard in making the annual event a success. I also want to thank all of the Citizen Potawatomi who expressed their appreciation to your employees. It means a lot to our folks to hear it from you.

The fry bread was especially good this year. I am told they fried more than 15,000 pieces of fry bread. Wow! We served more than 16,000 meals and 40,000 drinks - lots of food, lots of fun. The competitions were a great success.

My congratulations to the 2008 Potawatomi Leadership Program students. They are a group of seven outstanding high school seniors and college freshmen who stay at the tribe for six weeks studying the operations of the Nation. They won the Traditional Hand Games on their first try. The prize was close to \$1,000. The very competitive Moore family won the volleyball championship, a hot contest, and placed in basketball, putting, checkers, and chess. The winners of the competition dances, softball, basketball, golf, chess, checkers, dominoes, putting, horseshoes, and archery contests took home prizes for a combined total of more than \$20,000.

In anticipation of next year, many of you have e-mailed or called about the issue of proper dance behavior and appearance. There was also a great deal of comment by our experienced Citizen Potawatomi and tribal elders on Festival Saturday to require all dancers to wear regalia when they enter the arena. I agree wholeheartedly. If women wear a shawl or a traditional dress and men are wear a sash, vest, or ribbon shirt, it shows respect for the Tribe and its ancient traditions.

A lot of history is represented in the dances we do. This column has been the subject of a lot of instruction concerning behavior and appearance in the dance arena in the past. We have sort of "looked the other way" for years in order to get more people to participate. Many now think we should start to teach people how to do it correctly - especially no shorts, flip-flops, tank tops, or underwear shirts,



and try to at least keep in step to the drum. It is a dance, not a stroll.

Appropriate dress is the right thing to do out of respect for the family whose song is playing, the eagle feathers that are displayed, and the blessings and prayers that were said for the arena as the celebration is begun. So, next year we will start asking our people to observe the traditions. It is actually more meaningful and fun if we do. Regalia will be more available, as will dance instruction and information on what is expected of any Citizen Potawatomi or guest who dances, so they can teach their children.

The General Council was the first attended by the new members of the Tribal Legislature. The financial reports showed another year of growth and progress for our government and our businesses.

On a personal note, I want to thank you for the privilege and honor of serving as your Tribal Chairman.

As this issue of the *HowNiKan* goes to print, I was informed of the passing of a friend and invaluable asset to our tribal Nation and the new Legislature. It is with great sadness that I notify you of the passing of Tribal Legislative Rep. Jackie Taylor of District #8 today, July 15 at 10:30 a.m. PDT. On page 24 of this *HowNiKan*, you can read the glowing tributes to Rep. Taylor from those with whom she worked in Oregon. There will be more information in the August *HowNiKan*.

Megwetch,
John Barrett Keweoge

Vice Chairman Linda Capps

Bozho,

I am thankful for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Human Resources Department. HR staff members are housed at most of the Nation's major locations and at the larger enterprises. Two HR directors, Richard Brown and Michael Shaw, and a staff of 28 help our Nation comply with current employment laws, staffing needs, performance issues, training and recruiting, benefits management, and a whole array of policies and procedures. The tasks performed by HR staff members are far from easy.

A good example is the minimum wage law contained in the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). The federal minimum wage is presently \$5.85 per hour, which was effective July 24, 2007. This rate will change on July 24, 2008 to \$6.55 per hour; and on July 24, 2009, the rate will increase to \$7.25 per hour.

Some states might have varying minimum wage laws, and there are various minimum wage exceptions that apply under specific circumstances. Workers with disabilities, full-time students, tipped employees, and student-learners are the most common exceptions. Most of the exceptions at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation fall under the category tipped employees.

Since the Citizen Potawatomi Nation follows federal guidelines, we are gearing up to implement the change in our payroll to reflect the new wage amount. You



would think the increase in the minimum wage would have little impact; however, \$300,000 for the year is quite significant. Our HR department keeps administration abreast of rules and regulations concerning such matters.

As mentioned in the beginning, I am thankful for the assistance of the HR department, which makes the Nation's operations run much more smoothly. They are among the approximately 1,900 employees who help make this Nation great. The pleasure that I feel in serving as your Vice Chairman is echoed while working with our employees.

Megwetch,
Linda Capps
Vice Chairman

Secretary-Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale

Bozho, Nikan,

What a festival! It was certainly a treat to see everyone come back home and experience such a great festival event. The games, lessons, seminars, dances, ceremonies, and, of course, the food will not soon be forgotten.

I must say, before moving on, that I believe that the employees of our great Nation deserve a big "THANK YOU!" for all the hard work they did in accommodating us the entire weekend. I witnessed countless examples of going above and beyond the call of duty to help make this a wonderful event for all of us to enjoy. We even had good weather for the weekend.

Thanks to all of you who stopped by the

legislators' tent to visit with us about any needs or concerns. This communication is very important so that we understand what you want and how we can go about getting your needs met.

I also appreciate all of the e-mail addresses that were turned in. We are trying to compile an accurate list of all tribal members who have e-mail. Please take the time to forward yours to me at DTrousdale@Potawatomi.org. This will enable us to communicate much more effectively on a direct basis.

The legislature was in session on Monday following the festival, and I continue to be impressed with the quality and genuine concern of the representatives.

Congratulations to Reps. Schmidkofer and Wesselhoft upon their retaining their respective positions.

As a Nation, we should be very concerned about the low voter turnout at our elections. Remember that, when we cease to exercise our rights as a Nation, we cease to be a Nation. Please participate in tribal events.

The legislature is still getting comfortable with all the processes but we are making great strides in becoming an effective body. There are many concerns facing our Nation in an ever changing political world in the U.S.A., and we continue to strive to take full advantage of any program that is good for our people.

As your Secretary/Treasurer, I am responsible, in the executive branch of our government, to oversee much of the finances of the Nation. As part of the legislature I chair the Education committee and the Tribal Culture & Arts committee. I also sit on the Economic Development & Commerce committee and the Appropriations & Budget committee, both chaired



by Chairman John Barrett. If you have any input into these committees, please e-mail me at the above address.

I cannot thank you enough for allowing me to have the privilege of serving you. I believe that we can accomplish a great many things working together.

Megwetch,
D. Wayne Trousdale *Netemgiwse*
Secretary/Treasurer

Jackie Taylor, 'a tremendous advocate,' died July 15

Astoria, Oregon leaders pay tribute to service

by Sandra Swain and Patrick Webb - *The Daily Astorian*

Astoria, Oregon - Tributes were paid on Tuesday, July 15, 2008 to the service of Jackie Taylor, the Oregon North Coast's former state representative and a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation legislature, who died earlier in the day in Astoria, Oregon. She was 73. "She was just everywhere, in Seaside, Astoria, everywhere you turned," said Bruce Conner, of Astoria, whose paths crossed those of Taylor at the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce and other civic events. "She was a tremendous advocate for our community."

She retired from state government service in 2000 because of term limits laws. Her position was taken by Betsy Johnson of Scappoose, who later moved up to the state Senate. Johnson said Tuesday she was sad at the loss - and especially for Taylor's husband, Nelson Taylor. "She had had a number of health issues in the preceding year and she faced them with dignity and courage," Johnson said. "Oregon has lost a great lady. She was one of a kind. She was an Oregon original. My heart just breaks for Nelson. She and Nelson were a team."

Taylor, a Democrat, initially represented

District 2 in the Legislature 1991 to 1993, but lost her seat when district maps were redrawn. She was selected to represent District 1 after Tony Federici died in 1995. She was elected in 1996 and won again in 1998, defeating Republican Sam Patrick, then in his first race. (He later joined the Clatsop County Commission and is just completing his final term.)

Astoria Mayor Willis Van Dusen said he was very saddened and surprised. "She was a tremendous part of our community. She was very active in city activities, especially the Column and our urban forest," Van Dusen said. He said Taylor taught him the importance of focusing on the citizens of Astoria rather than on tourists. "I really learned that from her."

He said he talked to her just a few months ago and told her how valuable that lesson was to him. "It's our town. If tourists enjoy it, that's fine, but focus on our citizens."

If Taylor didn't agree with someone, "she had a great way of really listening, then explaining her point of view. And more often I switched to her point of view than she switched to mine," Van Dusen added.

A graduate of Boise State University, Jacqueline S. 'Jackie' Taylor was a former director of volunteer services for a region of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. She and husband Nelson owned Johnson Drug in Warrenton, Oregon. They have two daughters.

In the state legislature, much of her focus was on education issues and funding. In her final session in the Legislature, she was vice-chairman of the Water and Environment committee, as well as serving on Transportation and Human Resources committees. She served between sessions on the State Flood Plain Task Force, the Economic Development Work Group, and the Legislative Commission on Indian Services. She also was a member of the advisory council for Area Health Education for Oregon Health Sciences University.

Her community work included serving as a director of the Clatsop County Association for Retarded Citizens. She served on the Oregon Commission for Women in the 1990s, and on the Pacific Northwest Region Economic Council.

Locally, she served on the Astoria Civil Service Commission and the North Coast Women's Political Caucus, and was involved with the Pioneer House emergency shelter. She was also an Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce officer and ambassador.

In 1994, there was turmoil at the Clatsop County courthouse when three commissioners resigned on one day. Because county government could not be legally conducted without a quorum, Gov.



Rep. Jacqueline S. Taylor, 1935-2008

Barbara Roberts stepped in and appointed Taylor as the third commissioner, enabling the government to continue operating. She left the board once things settled down.

Jacqueline Taylor was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian tribe. Despite her health issues, as recently as March, Taylor was elected as a representative in the CPN's legislature, the government that represents the Potawatomi Native American people. The government is based in Oklahoma, but it has members across the nation.

The government offers its citizens services such as health care, housing, and public safety. It created a 16-person Legislature to better represent the needs of tribal members who live outside of Oklahoma. Taylor represented District #8, which encompassed Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, and North and South Dakota.

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION ALL-INDIAN OPEN 2008

Dates: August 1 (Scramble), August 2 and August 3 (Individual Stroke-Handicap Play)

Where: FireLake Golf Course in Shawnee, Oklahoma

Times: August 1 - 8 a.m. Shotgun Start/August 2 and 3 - 8 a.m. Tee Times

Cost: \$25 for scramble only (CASH PRIZES!)

Cost: \$100 for weekend stroke play tournament (CASH PRIZES!)

Cost: \$125 for all 3 days - Format for scramble: Blind draw

Format for weekend stroke play tournament: We will have two divisions. One for stroke play (No handicap) and one for stroke play (Handicap deducted). You must have a USGA, GHIN, or pro-attested handicap to be eligible for handicap division.

MUST HAVE A TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP OR CDIB CARD

Prize Fund for Stroke Play Tournament

Stroke Play	No Handicap	Handicap Division
1st	\$750	\$500
2nd	\$600	\$450
3rd	\$500	\$400
4th	\$450	\$350
5th	\$400	\$300

Sixth through tenth places also pay. Prize fund is based on 100 players.